

INTELFORM 34

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Country - Poland/Soviet Orbit/Belgium

Subject - Soviet and Satellite Stores in Szczecin

Place Acquired ----

Date Acquired - [REDACTED] 25X1X6

Date of Information - Summer 1953

25X1X6

1. "Szczecin has special importance in the economic system of the Soviet bloc, not only as a great harbour but also as the place in which the USSR and her satellites possess large stores of goods either imported from the West or brought from the USSR for Soviet purposes. The following information is dated summer 1953.
2. "It is estimated that of all the stores and warehouses in Szczecin only some 30% belong to the Polish administration. The others are controlled either by the USSR or by other countries within the Soviet bloc:
  - (a) It is known that big Soviet warehouses are situated:
    - in Stepnica between Szczecin and Swinoujscie
    - in Trzebierz on the left bank of the Odra River
    - in Szczecin-Skolcza.
  - (b) Warehouses belonging to Czechoslovakia are grouped in the section of the harbour called 'HUK' in the vicinity of the premises of 'Golęcín' State Odra Shipping.
  - (c) Hungarian warehouses are located in Goleniow, between Szczecin and Swinoujscie, near the central prison.
  - (d) Warehouses belonging to Rumania and Bulgaria have been constructed on the grounds of the state-owned farming estates (PGRs) Mokrzyczka and Unin, near Wolin.

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3. "The Soviet warehouses in Szczecin contain primarily military equipment sent from the USSR to supply the Soviet Army troops stationed in the Soviet zone of Germany and in Poland. Apart from arms and ammunition, there is a huge stock of sanitary equipment. From time to time some deliveries from Western countries also appear in the warehouses. At the beginning of 1953 more than 20 tons of Belgian penicillin, officially purchased for the use of the national health service in Czechoslovakia, arrived in Szczecin to be re-loaded. But only five tons of this shipment were ultimately sent to Czechoslovakia. Another five tons were loaded on ships trafficking the Polish-Chinese line. The remainder was stored in Soviet warehouses at Szczecin.
4. "The Soviet warehouses also contain various raw materials, semi-finished goods, machines and other industrial installations purchased in the West by the USSR. After some time such stores are generally directed from Szczecin to East German industry.
5. "In the warehouses belonging to the Soviet satellites, all sorts of goods imported from the West are stored in transit to their countries of destination, especially goods of strategical importance. They might of course be directed straight to the Black Sea ports, instead of passing through Szczecin. But it is considered safer to send them by this route, probably to avoid the possibility of Turkish observation.
6. "The warehouses store all sorts of imported articles which have been purchased in the West for Soviet military aims under various subterfuges and through various agents. The final destination of these imports is carefully camouflaged. An example is a series of deliveries of steel tubes, allegedly destined for the manufacture of bicycle frames, which were being sent from a factory in Luxembourg, via Szczecin, to Hungary. When the deliveries were readdressed in the Szczecin warehouse, it appeared that they were not to go to the Manfred Weiss bicycle factory at Csepel but to the armament department of the same Csepel works. The steel tubes were meant for the fabrication not of bicycle frames but of rifle barrels.
7. "The important warehouses are under special protection. On the part of the Szczecin UB, Captain (fnu) Muszalski is in charge of the guard arrangements. Two special companies of UB soldiers are detailed for sentry duty. The Soviet warehouses are also guarded by a unit of the Soviet Navy. Capt. Muszalski has his office at 47, Malopolska Street.
8. "Alexander Rotstein, probably also an UB officer, although his rank is unknown, is in charge of the safety of transports of satellite stocks from Szczecin through Polish territory. It is he who, on behalf of the UB, issues the special guarantees called Zelazny List Przewozowy. These documents are given to the consulates of the respective countries, guaranteeing UB protection of the goods in transit through Polish territory."

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